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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GSUSA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

SUBJECT: Comments on USFA Reinterrogation Report I-1138

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1. Reference is made to ID. No. USFA report I-1138, subject:

2. The referenced report is considered by this Agency to be an extremely valuable one. It is believed, however, that the users of the report as well as the preparing interrogators will find the following comments on the report prepared by this Agency to be of value:

- a. "On page 2 under "Production" the statement is made that the wood pulp is used for wrapping paper and also for cellulose to be used in the manufacture of rayon and nitro-cellulose; it is believed that this statement is in error since cellulose for rayon must be specially processed and that made for wrapping paper is not of sufficient purity for this purpose. The same would apply to cellulose to be used in the manufacture of nitro-cellulose. There is usually too much hemi-cellulose, pentosans, gums, etc. present in the cellulose manufactured for wrapping paper purposes to allow a uniform chemical reaction when processed into rayon. These aforementioned impurities if contained in nitro-cellulose would produce a commodity which would deteriorate in a short period of time.
- b. "On page 3 it is indicated that the digesters are steam boilers which is an error, for no attempt is made to generate steam in this apparatus; it is used entirely for treatment of the wood chips in order to break down the contained impurities. It is also doubted that reboiling or reprocessing is repeated 4 times since wood so treated would be absolutely unfit for cellulose usage. A further statement indicates that bleaching takes place in the digesters. This is in error since the bleaching solution would attack the iron fittings giving the cellulose a very red appearance due to the inclusion of the iron oxides. On the same page the statement is made that after treating the wood pulp with "calcium hydrochloride" the digesters are drained and the fluid goes to a building where chemicals are extracted and used for new processes. If any chemicals are to be extracted from the digesting of wood, it is usually practiced immediately after the wood is digested and always before bleaching takes effect.

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- c. "On page 4 the statement is made that the wood pulp is sorted by machines to take out fibers which are not thoroughly boiled. It is probably meant here that the pulp is passed through a series of pecker screens to take out any small knots which are not returned for reprocessing as indicated. In the second paragraph of page 4 it is evident that a description of a Fourdiner machine is indicated. This machine is not a sifting machine but one on which the paper is formed, dried, and finished. The description indicates that the finished paper is 25 ft. wide which is believed to be in error, since there are very few machines in the U. S. that will even approach this size. The report in the same paragraph is in error when it states that cellulose is made in the same manner, for the sheets or laps are made in an entirely different manner and in different equipment.
- d. "In the last paragraph on page 4 mention is made of 2 basins of salt solution where bleaching compound is manufactured. It is evident that the description here means calcium hypochlorite which is a bleach and not calcium chloride as indicated.
- e. "On page 5 it is indicated that 4000 persons are employed on a 3-8 hour shift each day per week basis. From this it is evident that the author is very much in error and is grossly exaggerating or that the paper mills indicated are operating on a very much overstaffed basis. It will be remembered on page 2 that the production of wrapping paper and cellulose was at the rate of 120 tons per 24 hour period which is not a large mill and certainly would not employ 4000 persons. 200 people would be more than enough for a plant of this size.
- f. "Page 13 indicates that sulfuric acid is produced at this plant which is believed to be in error and what is meant is the solution for processing the wood chips. It is wished to draw attention to the fact that the subject never entered the digester building nor the paper production building, but attempts to give a full description of the process and the equipment.
- g. "On page 15 in listing equipment it will be noted that no mention is made of paper making equipment such as a Fourdiner or cylinder machine.
- h. "On page 19, under Research, it is indicated that the laboratory is presently not used in the plant; it should be pointed out that it is necessary that extensive tests be conducted during manufacture to produce cellulose of a satisfactory grade for rayon or nitro-cellulose manufacture.
- i. "On page 19 under "Stockpiles", it is doubted very much that

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the practice as to the log piling is conducted in the manner indicated, i.e., using up all wood before any new logs are brought in. This would mean that the plant would have to shut down for a period of time each year. It is desired to point out that the logs do not depreciate in the time indicated."

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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THEODORE BARBITT
Assistant Director For
Reports and Estimates

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AD/ORE 1
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